



**Indianapolis**  
*Gregory A. Ballard, Mayor*

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **MAYOR BALLARD ANNOUNCES CHARTER RENEWAL FOR INDIANAPOLIS LIGHTHOUSE CHARTER SCHOOL**

*Fall Creek Academy Withdraws from Consideration, Surrenders Charter*

INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard today announced the results of the City’s evaluations of two Mayor-sponsored charter schools whose charters were up for renewal. The charter agreement will be renewed for Indianapolis Lighthouse Charter School, and in mid-November, Fall Creek Academy withdrew from consideration and surrendered its charter agreement. The comprehensive reports issued for both schools may be viewed online at [www.indy.gov/OEI/CharterRenewal/Pages/2011CharterRenewalPetitions.aspx](http://www.indy.gov/OEI/CharterRenewal/Pages/2011CharterRenewalPetitions.aspx).

“One of the most critical tenets of charter school oversight is having rigorous standards for holding schools accountable for student achievement,” said Mayor Ballard. “Every child deserves a quality education in an exceptional school.”

Mayor Ballard extended the charter for Indianapolis Lighthouse Charter School by three years, based on the school’s cumulative performance over time. The school has shown academic improvement over the past two years, most recently being named an ‘A’ school by the Indiana Department of Education based on the 2010-2011 results. To receive a full charter renewal at the end of the three-year extension, the school must demonstrate continued academic success and address concerns regarding its financial performance and governance, both of which were detailed in the comprehensive Renewal Report published by the Mayor’s Office.

Mayor Ballard announced earlier this year that a decision regarding Fall Creek Academy, which received a two-year conditional extension of its charter in 2009, would be made this fall pending the availability of 2010-2011 academic results. The Mayor’s Office examined the performance of Fall Creek Academy and published an evaluation for that school as well. On Nov. 15, the Fall Creek Academy board notified the Mayor’s Office of the withdrawal of its request to be considered for charter renewal and its desire to operate under another authorizer. The charter agreement between the Mayor and Fall Creek Academy will expire at the end of the 2011-2012 academic year.

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